

Atty. Dkt. No. 077311-0120
Serial No.: 10/010,547

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-13 and 15-22 are pending upon entry of this amendment. Claim 16 has previously been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 4 and 14 are cancelled by this amendment without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 17-22 are newly added. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the following remarks.

Claim Objections

Claims 12-15 are objected to as being in improper dependent form. Applicant submits that the amendments to the preambles of the claims of 12, 13 and 15 address the objection. Claim 14 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pierzchala et al. (US, Pat. No. 5,959,871). Applicant traverses this rejection and notes the typographical error in the Office Action listing the patent number as 5,959,872.

Regarding claims 1 and 11, Applicant asserts that the transresistance amplifier cited by the Office Action (at col. 17 lines 7-11 and col. 18, lines 6-11 of Pierzchala) is part of a post-processing cell, element 28 in Fig 2, and is not part of the multiplexer, 20 and 22 in Fig 2 of Pierzchala. The multiplexer of Fig 2 of Pierzchala appears to be formed of the Zener diode switches having each of their outputs connected to a current mirror amplifier, and all the current amplifier output currents summed together. At least because the transresistance amplifier is not part of the multiplexer of Fig 2 of Pierzchala, Applicant submits that claims 1 and 11 are patentable over Pierzchala.

Applicant submits that claims 2, 3, and 5 are patentable at least by way of their dependency from claim 1. Likewise, claims 12, 13 and 15 are patentable at least by way of their dependency from claim 11.

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Applicant submits that claim 6 is patentable over Pierzchala at least because Pierzchala does not teach enabling a selected input pin based on the selected input pin having a lower voltage than non-selected input pins.

Applicant submits that claims 7-10 are patentable at least by way of their dependency from claim 6.

Applicant submits that newly added claims 17 and 18 are patentable at least by way of their dependency from claim 1, newly added claim 19 is patentable at least by way of its dependency from claim 6 and newly added claims 20 and 21 are patentable at least by way of their dependency from claim 11. Applicant submits that newly added claim 22 is directed to non-elected Group II.

Applicant submits that no new matter is involved with the amendment, as support for the newly added claims and claim amendments can be found throughout the specification, such as, for example, on page 7.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-3431, ref. no. 077311-0120. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 50-3431, ref. no. 077311-0120. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants

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hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 50-3431, ref. no, 077311-0120.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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